

## **REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully traverse and request reconsideration.

Applicants attorney wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the telephone conference of December 3, 2004. The Examiner indicated that he would withdraw his objection to the drawings since Fig. 2 shows the flat panel display connector coupled thereto.

The specification has been objected to as allegedly failing to provide antecedent basis for claimed subject matter. As to claim 1, it is alleged that there is not support for monitoring a first node of a connector or detecting a monitor. Applicants respectfully refer the Examiner to, among other sections, the specification pages 6, 7, 8 and other sections which describe, for example, that the detect module 210 monitors the detect pin of a connector to detect the presence of a flat panel display monitor. Since there is ample support in the specification for the claimed subject matter, accordingly respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

In addition, the Office Action objects to claim 7 and 9. However, these claims were canceled without prejudice in a previous Office Action and accordingly this rejection is moot.

As to claims 11 and 12, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this objection for the same reasons that the Examiner agreed to withdraw the objection with respect to the drawing.

Claims 1, 4, 11-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang in view of Henry et al. In a preliminary matter, Applicants respectfully note that the Henry reference is owned by instant assignee. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully reserve the right to exclude this reference pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) and hereby reserves the right to exclude this reference, if suitable, at a later date.

In any event, the claimed invention is allowable over the art of record. For example, the Wang reference is directed to a method and apparatus for automatically detecting a connecting

status of a video outlet port by employing a micro switch mechanism external to the port. For example, as stated in col. 2, lines 8-15, a micro switch is set to a first state when an output port has no insertion connector inserted therein and will be actuated to a second state when an insertion connector of a cable is inserted within the port. As such, the mechanism described in Wang is a micro switch that gets pressed down when a connector cable is inserted into a port. There is no monitoring of a connector pin or connector node performed in the Wang structure. Instead it appears that a micro switch is positioned inside a connector to force a mechanical contact to avoid using an electrical pin of the connector.

For example, claim 1 requires, among other things, monitoring a first pin of a connector coupled to a flat paneled display. There is no such monitoring in Wang as Wang does not monitor pins of a connector, but instead use a mechanical micro switch that gets compressed when a connector pushes on it. Accordingly, the claim is in condition for allowance. In addition, the Wang reference does not assert an output signal to indicate that the first pin is in a first state and does not receive an output signal at a flat panel display engine. There does not appear to be any monitoring of connector pins that are coupled to a flat panel display in the Wang reference. A completely different mechanism is described. Accordingly, the claims are in condition for allowance.

In addition, as to the independent claims, there does not appear to be an interrupt signal generated nor the output signal stored on the register is required by claims 3 and 4. Accordingly, these claims are also in condition for allowance.


Claims 2 and 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang in view of Henry and further in view of Verdun et al. Applicants respectfully reassert the relevant remarks made above and accordingly, these claims are also in condition for allowance.

In addition, the Verdun reference teach a connector that is monitored. In fact, the connector that is coupled to a flat panel display is not described in Verdun since Verdun does not monitor a first connector when the connector is for coupling to a flat panel display. In the connector 42 in Verdun is not connected to a display. Accordingly, the claims are in condition for allowance for this reason also.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. The Examiner is invited to contact the below-listed attorney if the Examiner believes that a telephone conference will advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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